THE TORONTO WORLD.

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W. F. MACLEAN.

MONDAY MORNING, SEPT 29, 1884.

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Private Bankers.

The Montreal Gazette drops a hint which suggests that the minister of finance will probably at the coming session try again to legislate regarding private banks. There is not the same need for these banks as there was some years ago. In Ontario alone there are three hundred postoffices, in which money can be deposited with perfect safety. In our contemporary's view the main objection to private banks is that they are virtually under no control of government, and that they offer no adequate security to the depositor. Of course, recent instances will give to the demand for fresh legislation greater force than ever it had before.

Again the free trade doctrine that government interference should be reduced to the minimum is signally refuted by the logic of events. Civilization and progress, instead of lessening the need of government control, make it very much greater. And it is capable of a demonstration approaching the mathematical in its certainty, that in time to come railways, telegraphs, banks, other financial institutions, and corporate companies generally—will all be more under government control than they have been in time past. It is, be it observed, the *progress* of communities that makes government control necessary. The more backward any community is, the less need to regulate corporate enterprise by law. On the other hand, the more progressive it is, the more urgent does the need of government interference become. To this complexion must civilized nations come at last; in this direction the world is moving, beyond all doubt. The day of government control hastens on as commerce and civilization advance; and the sphere and duties of government are not contracting, as free traders argue, but are visibly expanding with every year that passes.

The Cattle Trade.

It appears to be a fact settled that the cattle export trade has not generally been a paying one of late for Canadian operators. A very few have perhaps held their own, but the majority have either worked for nothing or made actual losses. Mr. Fawcett, the western private banker who suspended recently, attributes his embarrassment principally to the dullness of the cattle trade, in which his various agencies were largely interested. This throws light upon the circumstance of considerable losses, or at all events, delays of payments occurring at points where ordinary commercial liabilities could not have been very heavy. He says that many cattle dealers have been unable to dispose of their stock at remunerative prices. Others have kept their cattle over from the spring, thinking that better figures could be obtained for them this fall, but shipments to England have not proved as successful as anticipated, and his agencies have not been able to collect.

He adds that there has been dullness all over, in business generally, and puts in the reminder that, although the year's harvest is a good one, farmers have not yet realized on it to any extent. All this allowed for, however, the information now before the public as to the cattle trade suggests that buyers going round the country have been too eager, and that they must have been paying the farmers higher prices for cattle than the markets would warrant.

The Ship of the Future.

Last week the America, the latest addition to the Cunard fleet was launched on the Clyde from the shipyard of John Elder & Co., who entertained a distinguished party at luncheon on the occasion. In the course of his speech, Mr. Pearce, a member of the firm, said that the ship of the future for the passenger business would carry no heavy freight. Vessels would yet be built to carry passengers only, and the traffic would be divided just as it is on railways now, which have their passenger trains and their freight trains. "We have no right," said Mr. Pearce, "to take cargo in these steamers at all. These steamers should be essentially adapted and fitted for passengers only, and the sooner I can convince the chairman of the Cunard company or the chairmen of the other companies or people who are at present unassociated with shipping to believe that I am right the sooner they will make a fortune, because it is altogether a mistake to suppose that you can drive a very great weight, consisting of ship engines, pig iron, etc., and a very small weight of passengers across the Atlantic ocean at a profit, but you can drive ship and engines without any cargo and with passengers only at a high speed and good profit. I say a good profit, because passengers properly accommodated as in a first-class hotel will pay a good price. They will pay for speed and they will also pay for superior accommodation."

There is really no sound reason for hurrying heavy freight across the ocean, as is now the custom. Frequently enough the produce of this continent is shipped with express haste to Europe, there to lie unsold for months; while European goods are sent west with as much needless hurry. Perhaps the extra speedy voyage is not really required at all, except in such cases say as those of dairy produce and meat going east, and of fashionable goods, for the season at hand, coming west. As for grain, also iron and other heavy merchandise, shipping a little sooner or receiving a little later would make no practical difference. The last ships of the season for Quebec and Montreal must of course be on time; but that could easily be insured by taking a safe and early start for the last trip.

The Opera World.

The New York papers contemplate a change in matters pertaining to the opera during the coming season, and there is every prospect that the change will come. For several years past Italian opera has predominated, and has received gratifying support from the music-loving community; but of late seasons the price of admission has been so high that even the wealthy people of New York are waking up to the fact that they are being imposed upon. The exorbitant prices charged are due almost entirely to the monstrous figures asked by "stars" for their services. The phenomenal powers of voice possessed by first class operatic singers are certainly worthy of reasonable recognition, but the prices they ask are out of all proportion. To bring this matter to its proper level, Dr. Damrosch and another eminent musician of New York, determined to procure if possible a season of German opera this year, and to this end they went to Germany, where, however, they were not as successful as they had desired, but it is not unlikely that although their efforts will not have the effect of producing German opera on this continent this year, they will be able to secure a good representation of French and English opera, thus affording an appreciable change and consistent prices. This, it is thought, will have the effect of forcing the "queens" of Italian opera to put a rational value on their talents, and in this way place the price of admission at a reasonable figure.

The people of Toronto have always given classical productions loyal support, notwithstanding the high prices charged, which to some extent are caused in Toronto by the limited seating capacity of our available buildings, and those who have catered so well in this respect in the past will no doubt this season spare no pains to bring to Toronto the best performances available, receiving therefor the support which the merits of the entertainments demand.

The Mowat procession was a big one, although the political arithmeticians are not agreed as to how big exactly it was. But it was nothing to the procession of icebergs that commenced sailing past St. John's, Newfoundland, less than two weeks ago. At times as many as sixty or seventy of these glittering and dangerous monsters from the frozen north could be seen at once, slowly drifting towards the warm southern waters. The Montreal Gazette's Newfoundland correspondent says: "The oldest inhabitant" does not remember anything approaching to the ice phenomena of this year. In ordinary years, a few icebergs are seen after Aug. 1. But now we have a huge fleet of them sailing past in the middle of September and chilling our atmosphere. Since the beginning of February a stream of icebergs and floes has been passing at intervals. Some great ice movement must have occurred in the arctic regions of an unusual character to cause such an abnormal disgorgement, and call into existence the vast ice-argosies of the last seven months. As a consequence, the supply of the next few years may be comparatively small, and we may have but few of these mighty wanderers of the deep, the arctic warehouses being temporarily exhausted.

Referring recently to the exorbitant charge of *ten cents* for a cup of tea at the Grand Trunk station here, we said that the usual charge at Toronto restaurants was five cents. This is true, but still it does injustice by omission. At the temperance coffee houses, King street east and Shaftesbury hall, a cup of excellent tea or coffee is furnished for three cents. Mr. Spicer should make a note of the outrageous overcharge at a station which is under Grand Trunk control.

In Quebec city the bakers have reduced the price of bread two cents per loaf. Toronto next. If not, why not?

The export cattle trade is dull at present, and the price of beef on foot is down several points. But the price in the butchers' shops remains high all the same. With both butchers and bakers it is "heads I win and tails you lose" every time.

Exaggerated reports do get into the papers sometimes. For instance, it was telegraphed all over the country that the recent accident on the Canadian Pacific railway at Renfrew caused damage to the amount of $75,000. Now it is stated that $1000 will cover all the loss

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A statement appeared in The World of Friday as an editorial paragraph, criticising the work of the Queen street subway. It should have appeared as a letter to the editor. From all we can learn, from inspection, and interviews with the engineer, inspector and contractor, the work is not being scamped. It is but fair to the contractors to say as much.

We have waited until patience has ceased to be a virtue to see the governor-general and the lieutenant-governor take action against the Hon. G. W. Ross, pursuant to the Mail's instructions. If red-headed treason is to be permitted to stalk abroad in this fashion, we may as well disband the militia and cashier the police. What will they say in England? Let the headsman be summoned at once, else the Mail's guardian of the altar and the throne will be made to look more ridiculous than usual.

The London Free Press contends that in view of the prospective expense of governing and colonizing our newly acquired territory, the provincial treasury is in no position to afford new legislative buildings. We fear that the wish is father to the thought. The public do not believe any such yarn.

Like another notorious old party, the Mahdi is not as black as he is painted. His respectful treatment of the nuns and missionaries who fell into his hands compares favorably with the treatment that christians sometimes accord one another.

The crop of earthquakes is unusually large this season. They are heard from in all quarters. Fortunately, the little one we had in Ontario the other day was no great shakes.

Western Ontario is all agog over the Times' announcement that the St. Thomas Aldermen recently took a trip to Buffalo and paid their own fares. This reckless spirit of innovation forebodes no good to the time-honored traditions of the municipal dead-head.

Miss Fortescue, the jilted of Lord Garmoyle, or "Gumboyle," as the wags have rechristened him, opens the dramatic season with the announcement that she is about to marry one Mr. Quilter. So long as she does not become a crazy quilter we are satisfied.

The London Advertiser remarks once more that "the provincial exhibition is doomed. Toronto doesn't want it and London won't have it." But it goes on making drafts on the public chest all the same. It is like the Hibernian's snake—dead but not sensible of the fact.

The influence of the Scott act movement is beginning to permeate the jury rooms. The resolution in its favor passed by the grand jury of Leeds and Grenville is a straw in the prevalent wind, although many people may question the good taste of handling such disturbing questions in jury box.

The World learns on good authority that there are at present only three scavenger carts employed throughout the whole city, and that not half a dozen corporation laborers have been employed in cleaning our streets for the past ten days. During the past week over fifty men, some of whom claimed to be starving, applied at the city hall for work, but were refused, on the ground that the board of works had no more money to spend for street cleaning.

Now Adelaide street has been in a disgraceful condition for two weeks past; King street is almost as bad; and the lanes of the city are just in proper condition to serve as avenues for cholera, typhoid fever or any other disease that may be floating around in the autumn breezes.

Two instalments of taxes have already been paid into the city treasury, yet the board of works appropriation is exhausted, and our streets must remain filthy until additional funds are voted. How this is to be done, nobody appears to know.

Either the original appropriation was ridiculously inadequate, or the money has been injudiciously and wastefully expended.

Some think that these "museums of anatomy" ought to be permitted. They are owned and started out by one or two parties in New York who furnish just as many "museums" as the country will stand. Confined to medical schools they are all well enough in their way, but spread all over the country as a pander to indecency they have no usefulness.

An Editor Scoops in Fifty Cents.
From the Manitoulin Expositor.

Two wedding notices this week. Joy!

Mail This to Goodman's Museum.
From the Hamilton Spectator.

We don't suppose, now, that the Toronto Mail will go Farrar and fare worse.

And What Will the Poor Things Do Now?
From the Uxbridge Journal.

When the editors of the other Toronto papers are at all scarce of editorial matter they seem generally to fill up with a a scorcher about the editor of the Mail.

Rather a Sweeping Proposition.
From the Kingston News.

There are two different ways of doing things—but so long as victory is won at the end, it makes but little matter how the victory is won.

The Green-Eyed at Work in Toronto.
From the Ottawa Free Press.

If lack of notice will kill the dominion and provincial show, the Toronto newspapers are determined to kill it. The treatment of the provincial exhibition by the leading Toronto papers is not so much a slight upon the provincial show as it is a proof that the Toronto papers are no longer provincial in their scope, but have sunk to the level of mere local publications.

The Scott Act and the Clubs.

To the Editor of The World.

SIR: The World of to-day, referring to violations under the Scott act, says: "Already combinations of persons calling themselves clubs sell and consume alcoholic liquors without leave or license, Sunday, Monday and holy day." By the amendments to the Crooks act of last session it is provided by clause 9: (1) "Any society, association, or club which has been or shall be formed or incorporated under chapter 167 of the revised statutes; and any unincorporated society, association, or club which has been, or may be formed or carried on specially or chiefly for the purpose of selling, bartering or supplying, or of enabling any such society, association, or club to sell, barter, or supply liquors to the members thereof, or to others, without a license under the said liquor license act, and so as by means of such organization to evade the operations of the said liquor license; and any member, officer, or servant thereof, or person resorting thereto, who shall sell or barter liquor to any member thereof, or to any other person without the license therefor by the said liquor license act, or amendments thereto required, shall be held to have violated section 39 of the said liquor license act, and shall incur the penalties provided for the sale of liquor without license." Sub sections (2) and (3) enact that the keeping of liquor by clubs or societies is a violation of the act; and that proof of consumption or intended consumption shall be conclusive evidence of the sale of such liquors. It is evident from this that the law is sufficient to break up these so-called clubs. What is needed is active, determined inspectors to put the law in operation. The government have time and again expressed their readiness to dismiss any inspector against whom a well-founded complaint of inefficiency or refusal to do his duty may be lodged.

J. T.

—People who wish to note the progress Toronto is making ought to visit West Toronto Junction. It is within a few minutes of the Union station by the trains of either the Ontario and Quebec and the Grand Trunk or the Northern. The junction station of the C. P. R. is now in full blast and freight and passenger trains are stopping there every short while. New houses are going up all round while the plans of many handsome ones are still in the hands of the architects. Real estate in the neighborhood has steadily risen in value and promises to advance still more rapidly. A lot or block in this locality is the best investment a workingman or capitalist can go into. It will double itself in two years just as Parkdale, Brockton and the whole west end has done. Some of the best lots in West Toronto are to be had from George Clarke, 295 Yonge street.

The Dry Goods Trade.

NEW YORK, Sept. 26.—In the dry goods trade a better and more hopeful feeling is apparent, and a fair average distribution of fall goods is likely to be made. Owing to the late financial upheaval in Wal street, package buyers have adopted a cautious hand-to-mouth policy, their early purchases having been conspicuously light. But stocks are so small at all distributing points that the commission houses anticipate a steady re-order demand for some to come. The recent curtailment of production has imparted more steadiness to prices and tended to restore confidence in values, but the season has so far advanced that no material advance is likely to occur, and there is not the least indication of speculation in any quarter.

The demand for most descriptions of fall and winter goods has been checked to some extent by the continued warm weather. The jobbing trade has been also unfavorably influenced by the high state of the temperature, many buyers having deferred their purchases until they can make their selections with a reasonable degree of comfort. The most desirable makes of prints, ginghams and dress goods are generally firm, while staple cotton fabrics are for the most part steady in price.

The demand for cotton goods at first hands is mainly restricted to such small parcels of plain and colored cottons as are actually required by jobbers for the renewal of assortments, and transactions are moderate in the aggregate. Brown sheetings are shewing a little more animation in some quarters, and for some days past there has been a steady call for small lots of fine and medium bleached goods and wide sheetings. Plaid oznaburgs have been in fair demand, and some of the best known makes are well sold up, but denims, tickings, ducks and other colored cottons have been dealt in lightly by package buyers.

Prints have been in steady demand for fancy makes from package buyers, and indigo blues are also much enquired for.

Ginghams have been in light demand from first hands, except for the best class of dress styles, which are in fair request. The supply of dark ginghams is small, and therefore prices are well maintained.

The market for dressed goods has ruled very quiet thus far, although agents report a steady re order demand for small parcels of staple worsteds, such as cashmeres, beiges, alpacas, poplins, etc., and jobbers are doing a fair business in both worsted and all wool fabrics. Plain cotton fabrics are selling with great freedom.

In woollen goods the volume of the business in first hands has been of an average amount, and no unexpected change in the character of the demand has occurred this autumn. The jobbing trade are now very busy, and an effort is being made to push forward shipments on account of recent orders.

O, Canada, Mon Pays, Mes Amours.
From the Montreal Star.

Canadian skies and Canadian air have something about them which seems to make life worth living, and it is not a rare occurrence for foreigners who have come to Canada to acquire a competence, with the intention of returning to their own country later on, to find the new love so strong that they must be off with the old one. Paris-Canada, Mr. Hector Fabre's paper in Paris, recently gave a case in point: An old country Frenchman from Lyons, named David Jean, had made a snug little sum in Canada, and with his wife went back home last Spring to end his days in la belle France. But the ties of thirty-five years were not to be broken so easily, and his homesickness became such that he returned for good to his first chosen home, where he will lay his bones. Many other instances are known in which Canada has established its claims to surpassing as a home all the countries of the old world, our climate, institutions and boundless resources placing us in an enviable position.

—Messrs. Mitchell & Platt, druggists, London, Ont., write Dec. 1881: We have sold Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil since its first introduction, and we can safely say, no medicine on our shelves has had a larger sale, or gives better satisfaction. We always feel safe in recommending it to our customers.

Got Back His Ring.

From the St. Thomas Times.

At the time Lewis Robbins, of the Grand Trunk railway, eloped he carried off a valuable diamond ring belonging to Mr. J. G. Whale of this city, which the artist had loaned him. Mr. Whale communicated with Chief of Police Fewings and the latter wrote to Chief Wm. Jordan of Galveston, Texas, with a view to the recovery of the ring. This morning he received a letter to the effect that the ring had been forwarded to Mr. Whale in his care.

Local Markets.

THE FARMERS' MARKET.—The receipts of grain on the street to-day were small, owing to the rain, and prices ruled steady. Two loads of wheat offered and sold at 81½c for fall, and 70c for goose; spring nominal at 85c to 87c. Barley steady, with sales of 500 bushels at 50c to 73½c. Oats nominal at 35c to 38c. Peas 63c to 66c, and rye 64c to 65c. Hay dull, with sales of two loads at $12 a ton. No straw offered, and prices are nominal at $8 to $9. Hogs are unchanged at $7.75 to $8, with sales of five loads at $8.50 to $10. Beef, forequarters $4.50 to $6.00; hindquarters $7 to $9. Mutton, carcase $6 to $6.50. Lamb, $7 to $9.

ST. LAWRENCE MARKET.—There was a fair amount of produce in to-day, and with good demand, prices ruled firm. Beef—Roast, 11c to 14c, sirloin steak 13c to 14c, round steak 10c to 11c. Mutton—Legs and chops 10c to 12c, inferior cuts 7c to 8c, lamb, per lb., 10c to 14c, forequarters, 6c to 8c, veal, best joints, 13c to 14c, inferior cuts 8c to 10c. Pork—Chops and roast 11c to 12c. Butter—Pound rolls 23c to 26c, large rolls 19c to 21c, cooking 14c to 15c. Lard 12c to 13c. Cheese 12c to 14c. Bacon 12c to 15c. Eggs 18c to 21c. Turkeys $1.50 to $2. Chickens, per pair, 50c to 75c. Geese 85c to $1. Ducks 55c to 75c. Potatoes, per bag, 45c to 60c. Cabbages, per doz., 20c to 30c. Onions, per doz., 15c to 20c. Apples, per brl., $1.00 to $2.50. Beets, per doz., 15c to 20c. Carrots, per doz., 15c to 20c. Turnips, per bag, 40c to 50c. Tomatoes, bush, 25c to 30c. Cauliflower, doz, 50c to 60c.

—Mr. R. A. Harrison, chemist and druggist, Dunnville, Ont., writes: "I can with confidence recommend Northrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery and Dyspeptic Cure for dyspepsia, impure blood, pimples on the face, biliousness and constipation—such cases having come under my personal observation."

Belva Lockwood's Sweet Ratification.

From the Washington Republic.

"Howdy," said Mrs. Lockwood.

"Howdy," replied a pleasant little lady in a white lawn dress, and a resounding kiss startled the evening air.

Such was Mrs. Belva Lockwood's reception at a meeting which was held to ratify her nomination at Wilson's Station yesterday afternoon. In company with a number of ladies who were facetiously styled her cabinet she had come out from Washington, the party occupying a car to themselves.

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